

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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## Write Us a Letter!

By the Editor

1. Sixty-Four Page Book, "Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life," Absolutely Free in March. Write for it.
2. \$2.00 Credit for Every Letter Published.
3. Beautiful Box of Fourteen Assorted Scripture Greeting Cards Free With Each \$5.00 Retail Order.
4. R. A. Torrey's "Vest Pocket Companion for Soul Winners," 118 Pages, Free With Each \$1.00 Retail Order.
5. Special Value: "The Home: Courtship, Marriage and Children," Only \$2.00, if Ordered During March.
6. Free Book and Plaque and Greeting Card Catalog and Assorted Information to Those Who Ask for Them.

March is letter month for THE SWORD OF THE LORD! I want every reader of this paper to write me a letter this month, and the sooner, the better. First, I want your suggestions about THE SWORD OF THE LORD. What has helped you? How could the Christian magazine be improved? Who do you know who has found Christ through this paper? What results do you know that have been accomplished through the books we publish, through The Sword Book Club, through the editor's radio broadcasts? Then there are thousands of you who ought to plan to send in subscriptions, who ought to order books, pamphlets, Christian greeting cards. We want a letter from everyone of you. Some should write for a free copy of the little booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" to give to an unsaved loved one and win him to Christ. Others should send offering for our Free Literature Fund or for our daily and Sunday radio broadcasts. There are many reasons why we need your letters. There are equally as many reasons why you need to write. Week in, week out, we labor with unceasing toil to build a great Christian revival weekly. Our prayers, our tears, our writing, editing, correcting, planning goes on. Now we think it only right and fair that every Bible-believing Christian who reads THE SWORD OF THE LORD should write us a letter to warm our hearts and help in the work and get further information. WRITE US THAT LETTER!

**FREE! Brand-New Book, "Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life," Sent to Everyone Who Asks for It During This Letter Month**

Readers may know that more than six and one-fourth million copies of my books and pamphlets have been circulated. We have had word from thousands of people who say they have been



Dr. W. A. Criswell

won to Christ through my writings. It is the burden of my heart to get out the gospel in print, just as it is my burden to get the gospel out over the radio and in large revival campaigns. I have long felt the need of a special book for new converts in my revival campaigns, telling these new converts just how to get established in the habits and customs that will guarantee a happy and successful Christian life. I have often taken time to preach to new converts and showed them from the Word of God these principles of happy, prosperous Christian living, including the assurance of salvation; baptism; church membership; proper way to master and live by and use the Bible; the daily prayer life; giving according to Bible standards; and soul winning. The introduction to this book is printed in this issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. The seven strong chapters and this introduction make up a book of approximately sixty-four large

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## A Meditation on Psalm 16

(Message given at Sword of the Lord Conference on Evangelism, Chicago, Illinois, November 27, 1943. Mechanically recorded for THE SWORD OF THE LORD.)

By REV. BOB JONES, Sr., D.D., LL.D.

I am reading in the sixteenth Psalm. It is a Messianic Psalm, as many of the Psalms are. That means they have to do with the Lord Jesus Christ. I am not going to perfect an interpretation; all I am going to do tonight is to make certain little practical applications. Exposition is one thing; making application is another thing. I am making some applications tonight. Let's begin with the first verse.

### The Trusting Child of God Has a Claim on God's Care

"Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust."

The psalmist here seems to have a claim on God. He says, "Lord, take care of me, because I am trusting You." A Christian does have a claim on God. Did you know that you are a joint



Dr. Bob Jones

heir with the Lord Jesus Christ? Isn't that wonderful? Did you know that I am a very rich man? Maybe you did not know it, but I am very wealthy. I did not make my wealth in evangelistic work, I inherited it. I am joint heir with Jesus and He owns everything. He made everything and everything that was made was made for Him. I am going to share with Him.

Did you know that I own stock in all the diamond mines and all the gold mines in the world? Did you know that I have an interest in all the forests and all the timberland and all the fertile soil? Did you know that all the flowers that bloom in the jungles of South America are part of my botanical garden? I am very well fixed. The stars that you

see in the sky at night are just dewdrops on the lawn out in front of my house. I am awfully well off. I am joint heir with Jesus Christ!

I am no beggar. I do not come around to the back door, knock, and say, "Lady, will you give me something to eat?" I go in the house, and when dinnertime comes I sit down at the table and say, "Pass the biscuits. I would like to have some potatoes and gravy. Don't you have some meat on the table today—what is the matter?" I am a member of the family; I am a child of God!

A man was telling me not long ago that he had a hard time and that nobody could make him believe there was a God. He said: "Look at me; see what a time I have had."

"Well," I said, "are you a child of God? Have you ever been born again? Have you ever been saved?"

He said, "No."

"Well," I said, "what right have you to sit around here and com-

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## Don't Be an Ignoramus

By REV. TOM MALONE

Pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pontiac, Michigan

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life..."—I John 5:13.

"If any man will do his will, he shall KNOW of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."—John 7:17.

"And ye shall KNOW the truth, and the truth shall make you free."—John 8:32.

"He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I KNOW, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."—John 9:25.

It is said that years ago the word—"ignoramus" was a law term. If a Grand Jury found that the evidence submitted unto them was insufficient to warrant the finding of a true bill, they would write on the bill of indictment, "We ignore" or, "Ignoramus," which meant, "We do not know." I suppose there are some commonly-accepted facts that we actually cannot be too sure about. For instance, I have heard people discuss the question about who really discovered America first. Some say Columbus, others say Ericson, and still others say Vespucci did. There are some wonderful Bible facts, however, about which we need not be, we MUST not be ignorant. These facts, the most simple, most humble, most unlearned child of God can KNOW. About these facts there need be no doubt, no variety of opinion, no question whatever. Some people are more concerned about who Cain's wife was than they are about certain Bible facts which are so essentially related to salvation and assurance and peace of heart. I do not even know who Thomas Jefferson's wife was, but I have never lost any sleep over the matter! But blessed be God, there are some Bible facts that are definitely and eternally settled and fixed in

my heart. It is not necessary to be an "ignoramus." More than twenty times in the First Epistle of John we read these words, "We KNOW." At least six times in his epistles, Paul says, "I would not have you to be IGNORANT, brethren." What do we KNOW?

### I. We KNOW That All Men Are Sinners

This is a good starting place. (Continued on page 5)



Rev. Tom Malone

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW

## WHOSE

IS THE

## BIBLE?

By DR. W. A. CRISWELL

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas

Condensed from "The Baptist Messenger"

"The Bible is a Catholic Book." I can hardly believe my eyes, yet there it is. "The Bible Is a Catholic Book." The heavy caption introduces an advertisement published in many of the national magazines of our country. The propaganda grows out of the office of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus. What they have to say about the Bible's being a Catholic book would be historically ridiculous were it not tragic in the effect it may have upon some of the people who will read the advertisement.

After all, where did the book we call the Bible come from, and who gave it to us? What has been the historical attitude of the Roman Church toward it? The answers are easy to find.

Our Bible is comprised of two Testaments, the Old and the New. The Old Testament was preserved for us by the Hebrew people. The Hebrew Bible is our Old Testament. To them in ancient

days were committed "the oracles of God." The historian Josephus might still say of them what he wrote more than 1,800 years ago, "After the lapse of so many centuries, no one among the Jews has dared to add to or take away or to transpose anything in the Sacred Scriptures."

### What Basis of Ownership?

The canon of the Old Testament seems to have been largely closed soon after the time of Ezra the Scribe who flourished about 450 B. C. The prophecy of Malachi was the last to be added and thereafter the Old Testament remained a sealed volume, "waiting for the Great Prophet who should come." In what sense the modern Roman Catholic Church can appropriate as peculiarly its own the Old Testament Scripture is a mystery indeed.

There remains the New Testament. Do they belong to the hierarchy of Rome? Were they

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# Witch Hunting and the Origin of the So-Called Civil Rights Program

By REV. CARL MCINTIRE, D.D.

Pastor, Bible Presbyterian Church, Collingswood, N. J.,  
Editor, THE CHRISTIAN BEACON

(Radio address on station WLAC, Nashville, in connection with the General Synod of the Bible Presbyterian Church, May 13-18, 1948.)

Good evening, everybody.

In these six talks I have been dealing with the socialistic propaganda of the Federal Council of Churches and the larger denominations in it. I have also told you of the rise of the American Council of Christian Churches and its testimony to the historic Christian faith. Saturday night I read you at great length from the "Class-mate," an official Sunday school paper of The Methodist Church, the largest body in the Federal Council, and you heard the praise of Joseph Stalin and the Russian system which Jerome Davis wrote for the young people of the church.

Now whenever this type of propaganda is carried on, there is also another line of propaganda that accompanies it. For instance, those who would expose those who are trying to change our free economy are called witch hunters.

I have in my hand the "Class-mate" for Feb. 1, 1948. The article, "Signs of the Times," by Floyd K. Baskette, deals with civil liberties and witch hunting. I quote: "Witch-hunting, inspired by the fear of the atomic bomb, may prove a real danger to basic civil liberties. . . . The Committee of the House of Representatives on Un-American Activities may be one of the chief offenders. . . . The committee, both under the leadership of Representative Dies and Wood, has shown little tolerance or fairness in its investigation of 'un-American activities.'"

I wonder if it is the responsibility of the church of Jesus Christ to carry on propaganda among the young people against the House Committee on Un-American Activities? Why not give the youth the Bible? Of course, that committee is not perfect, but it certainly has been set up to do a very needed job in this hour of tremendous crisis. It is this Committee on Un-American Activities that has exposed some of the radicalism of leaders in the Federal Council. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, the president of

the Federal Council two years ago, has been exposed by it.

Let me quote from a report of that committee concerning Bishop Oxnam: "This individual is a Methodist minister and is sometimes referred to as a collectivist bishop."

"He has a record of association with several groups which have been called Communist fronts. Among these were the following:

"Oxnam has been a sponsor of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Inc. . . . The organization has been cited as a communist front by several investigative bodies. Corliss Lamont, one of the active heads of the organization has been called the most faithful adherent of the Communist Party line in the United States."

Naturally, when the Committee on Un-American Activities begins to make available to the public such information, it is not surprising to find Sunday school literature attacking the Committee on Un-American Activities and condemning it as witch hunting.

This same thing is done in regard to the Federal Council of Churches also. I have here the "Westminster Adult Bible Class" for May, 1948, monthly lesson magazine of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. I read: "I understand that the Federal Council of Churches is an agency through which Presbyterians and many other denominations can work effectively. I understand also that the International Council of Religious Education brings together forty or so denominations to make lesson outlines and promote the cause of Christian Education unitedly. But I am told that both these organizations are under fire from certain other groups within the Christian fold who are bringing the charge of 'unorthodoxy' and other easily charged but difficult-to-prove statements. My own feeling, after looking rather thoroughly into the matter, is that the Federal Council and the International Council are the Nehe-miahs who are building and reconstructing, and that the critics of these co-operative movements are in danger of becoming the Sanballats and the Tobiahs. I certainly urge every adult Bible class member to be wary of charges that he may read or hear against . . . the Federal Council." Thus the Sunday school literature is used not only to propagate socialistic ideas, as I pointed out, but the same literature is used also to warn people against those who would expose what is being done. Either they expect exposure or people are becoming so aroused that these defenses are now necessary.

The civil rights program that we hear so much about today and which is causing such concern had its origin in the Civil Rights Congress in Detroit. Attending this meeting were prominent leaders of the Federal Council of Churches, and also leaders in the Communist Party. Let me read you what the Committee on Un-American Activities had to say about that. I read to you from a report on the Civil Rights Congress by the Committee on Un-American Activities dated September 2, 1947, page 19: "The 'Civil Rights Congress' is an organization dedicated not to the broader issues of civil liberties, but specifically to the defense of individual Communists and the Communist Party. . . . The organization is controlled by individuals who are either members of the Communist Party or openly loyal to it, and . . . in carrying out defense aims, the organization has at the same time, engaged in a

campaign of vilification against the American Government."

The Attorney General also cited the Civil Rights Congress and its affiliated organization as a "subversive" organization in a list prepared pursuant to Executive Order 9835, released by the U. S. Civil Service Commission, December 5, 1947.

Now, by the strangest twist, many of the same aims and goals which are a part of the original Civil Rights Congress are included in the so-called civil rights program offered to us at the present moment. F.E.P.C. is one of the most objectionable features. F.E.P.C. has had the official endorsement of the Federal Council of Churches, and its representatives have lobbied in Washington for the adoption of F.E.P.C. Here are the representatives of the church going to Washington in the name of so many million Protestants calling for this type of legislation. Let me read to you from the official hearings before the Sub-committee of the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the United States Senate, June 11 through July 18, 1947. Dr. Beverley M. Boyd, executive secretary of the Department of Christian Social Relations of the Federal Council, appeared and said: "I appear here to express the views of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America as stated in official action by its executive committee and at its biennial meetings."

Here the Federal Council goes to Washington. Undoubtedly, great numbers of Christian people who are members of the Federal Council churches oppose F.E.P.C., and yet their representative counts them and goes to Washington claiming to speak for them on this very vital issue. In the course of this testimony Dr. Boyd, when pressed under cross-examination by one of the Senators, said: "I do not wish to increase, as you know, the antagonisms, but my personal feeling is that maybe the time has come when to gain our goal we may have to increase those antagonisms, and maybe this is the practical step." Here a minister goes on the stand before a committee of the United States Senate and admits that F.E.P.C. will increase antagonisms and that he thinks it is a good thing to do in order to obtain their particular goal. What is the goal? I'll tell you what I believe it is — it is socialism; and the greater the racial tension, the greater the demand for government controls!

Let me read you now the statement which the American Council adopted on F.E.P.C. at its meeting last week down in Atlanta:

"In the name of 'Civil Rights,' the proposed civil rights program will destroy America's most fundamental civil liberties. The attack upon liberty today has to be made in the name of liberty. It is the Satanic angel-of-light approach. This is a stratagem to use the prestige of government to smear and to intimidate those who would oppose that hurtful legislation which the proponents of such measures want."

"It promotes class consciousness and inspires hate between peoples. It is another step toward the socializing of America. It had its genesis in the Detroit Civil Rights Congress of 1946, where known communists and radical church leaders of the Federal Council initiated the entire program."

"The F.E.P.C., which is recommended as a part of this program, and for which the Federal Council has lobbied in Washington, is a vital part of the communist program at the present stage of their developing blueprint. Free enterprise, the right of the employer to choose, and the right of the employee to work with whom he desires are substantially abrogated. The employer is legally forbidden to make inquiry of a prospective employee concerning matters which involve the success of his business, and which may have bearing on the security of the entire nation. F.E.P.C., in principle, would be a far-reaching cloak for the shielding of disruptive agents. The solution to these problems is not to be made by an appeal to the police state, but by the preaching of the Gospel, the

## A Meditation on Psalm 16

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plain about God Almighty's not taking care of the Devil's kid? You are not God's child and here you are fussing at God because he does not take care of a child of the Devil."

Now the Bible says that He sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. But that is just because God is good. He is not obligated; He does not have to send the rain on the unjust. Because He is just such a good God, He says, "Poor fellow; I love him and I will send him some rain."

But motherhood and fatherhood carries an obligation. If I trust God it becomes His responsibility to take care of me. If I put myself in His hands and turn things over to Him, then I am His responsibility. That is a wonderful thing.

The psalmist says, 'Now, Lord, take care of me; I'm trusting You. I am looking to You to do it.' When you turn things over to God, when you put them in the Lord's hands, His reputation is at stake. A Christian has a right to say, 'Lord, take care of me; I'm trusting You. Give me some money. Help me out. I am in Your hands. I am looking to You to take care of me.'

Years ago, when I was a young preacher, I held a meeting in Louisiana. There I met the most rugged old-time, camp-meeting Methodist preacher I ever saw. He was not educated. He had muscles in his arms, muscles in his legs, muscles in his will and muscles in his character. I never knew such a rugged man! I never knew a man who had such practical, common sense as he had. I could tell you the most thrilling stories about that man if I had the time. But here is one story.

There lived in that community a wicked man who had a wicked wife. One day they sent for the preacher and said, "Come over to our home quickly!" The preacher went. When he got there they said, "The doctor has told us our little baby is dying. Won't you ask God to spare our baby, ask

presentation of the law of God, and the eternal judgments of God upon evildoers. Human relations are not aided by 'social-gospellers' who would place us in an iron vise."

Why doesn't the church of Jesus Christ preach the Gospel? Why must it go down to Washington and take part in political maneuvers?

Christian friends, these issues concern you; they concern me and our children, the future of the church and our country.

The solution of these problems has to do with the preaching of Jesus Christ. Men need to be saved and born again; then they will love their neighbors. All the socialistic vises and clamps in the world cannot make a man be good. When the church is being used, as I have pointed out in this talk, to stir up confusion and strife, the cause and hope of Russia are greatly enhanced.

We cannot sit silent and let those who would destroy our free economy simply run away with our freedom. Christian people, God's Word has something to say about your support and your fellowship with that which is contrary to the Gospel and to the Word of God. We are indeed in the midst of a twentieth century reformation.

Tomorrow night I shall go into more detail in my final talk which I have called, "A Personal Testimony." I want you Presbyterians especially to hear my final talk.

Thank you for listening. Good night.

(This is the fifth of six radio messages on RUSSIA'S MOST EFFECTIVE FIFTH COLUMN IN AMERICA, an indictment of the Federal Council of Churches. The last message will appear in the next issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. The entire series of messages may be had in pamphlet form for 25c from Christian Beacon Press, Haddon and Frazer Avenues, Collingswood, N. J.)

Him to let him get well?"

The preacher said, "I'm sorry, but I can't do it."

The man said, "What is the matter?"

He said, "Well, you are an old sinner. If the boy grows up here he will go to Hell as sure as the world. I can't ask God to spare the boy to be brought up with this crowd. You will damn him. You will send him to Hell. It would be better for him to die and go on to Heaven. I hate to say that. It is awfully hard. But if your baby grows up here he will go to Hell for sure."

"Well," the man said, "I believe in prayer. And I believe that if you will ask God to spare my baby, He will do it."

The old preacher said again, "I'm sorry but I just can't do it. I just cannot ask God to spare that baby to grow up here in sin." Then he put his arms around them and said, "If you will get right with God, I'll pray for him."

They said, "We'll do it."

The preacher said, "Get down here on your knees and I'll pray for you."

The man got down on his knees and his wicked wife got down on her knees, and both of them were converted. Then the preacher said, "All right now, are you saved? Are you sure? Are you going to clean up this dive; get out of this place; come clean with God and stand for Jesus?"

They said, "Yes, sir; we promise."

"All right," the old preacher said, "let's ask God to spare the baby; he is going to have a Christian father and mother now." He prayed. God saw fit to spare the baby and the baby grew up.

That preacher, theoretically, was right. What right has a wicked woman to get down and say, "God, I want You to spare my baby so I can rear him in sin"? What right has a godless, wicked man to say, "God, take care of this boy so I can damn him"?

It is different with a Christian. A Christian can say, "Now, Lord, this is Your baby. I have promised I would bring him up for You. Spare my baby." You have a right to say, "God, give me strength so I can work for You." You have no right to ask God for anything that you are not willing to give back to Him. You have no right to ask God to give you money that you are not willing to give back to God. The psalmist said, "Now, Lord, take care of me because I trust You."

### God Is My Own Personal Lord and Father

Now look at the second verse: "O my soul, thou hast said unto the Lord, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee."

Did you know that in some ways that little word *my* is the biggest word in the English language? It changes everything. Somebody's mother is dead—but: *my* mother is dead. Somebody's poor baby is in its coffin—but: *my* baby is in its coffin. That little word *my* makes all the difference in the world.

Years ago in Florida I was in an ice cream parlor with some friends one night after a service. Somebody said, "Today a little baby—a very lovely little child about five years old—went off, just wandered away from home. Nobody knows where the baby is and the mother is brokenhearted; both the mother and father are almost frantic." An awful feeling went over all of us for a bit. Then we went on eating our ice cream, went on laughing and talking. In a few moments a man and a woman came in. Somebody said, "That is the father and mother of the lost child." I have never seen such expressions of anguish as were on their faces. What a difference it makes when it is *my* child. Oh, if we could just get into the sufferings of people! That little word *my* changes everything.

A man said to me not long ago, "You can't prove there is a God." Well, I have; I have proved it many a time. If there has ever been one prayer answered, that is all the proof you need that there is a God.

I heard a story one time of a

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD

214 West Wesley Street,  
Wheaton, Illinois



# New Testament Christians

## The Seven Secrets of the Wonderfully Happy Converts at Pentecost

By EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

What kind of a Christian are you going to be? Perhaps you did not even know that there could be more than one kind of a Christian, but there certainly can! You may be a happy, joyful Christian, rejoicing in the Lord always, as we are commanded to do (Phil. 4:4); or you can be like so many others, happy only part of the time.

You may be the kind of a Christian who knows that he is saved, never doubts it because he knows just how he was saved and that God keeps His promises. Or you may be the kind of Christian who frequently doubts his salvation and wonders if God has not forsaken him.

You may be the kind of a Christian who has a regular daily victory over sin, the kind of Christian who is able to overcome daily temptations and, though he will know that he is naturally weak and frail and sinful, yet has such daily cleansing and daily power to turn away from known sin that on the whole his life is one grand victory! Or you may be the kind of Christian who, though truly converted and truly loving the Lord Jesus in his heart and knowing he has trusted Christ for salvation, is nevertheless constantly defeated, often falling into sin or having habits that he seems unable to break. You see, a Christian may be victorious or defeated.

A Christian may find great joy in the Bible and read it daily with increasing profit and help and enjoyment. Or a Christian may find the Bible dull, may feel himself more or less unable to master the Word of God and to live by its precepts, because he is not a mature and victorious Christian. I know Christians like that, don't you?

A Christian may be a soul winner. Certainly that is the highest aim of our Saviour for every Christian. He may day by day have the power of the Holy Spirit upon him so that he will know what to say to sinners and may find that the blessed Holy Spirit takes his testimony and warnings and uses them powerfully in turning sinners to Christ. Or a Christian may go along from the day of his salvation and never win a soul, and meet God empty handed at the judgment seat of Christ! What a sad thing to be one of the branches of Christ, the Vine, but to bear no fruit! What a sad thing to be saved, as Lot was down in Sodom, but to have one's family and kinspeople and neighbors destroyed and sent to Hell because one did not have the power to win them!

### The Defeated, Carnal Christians at Corinth

The Word of God recognizes

### The Sword of the Lord Presents Evangelist

JOHN R. RICE

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that there are these two kinds of Christians—the victorious and the defeated, the happy and the sad, the prosperous and the unprosperous, the soul winners and the unfruitful. In writing to the church at Corinth the Apostle Paul was inspired to say:

"And I brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?" (I Cor. 3:1-4).

You see, it was a sad fact that many of these new converts at Corinth were still only babes in Christ, though they had been saved some time before. They were still weak and were not able to eat the strong meat of the Word of God, but had to be fed upon milk. They were "carnal" and not "spiritual." They were only baby Christians. They could not have the regular strong food that Christians ought to be able to enjoy. They had divisions and strifes. They were envious. They had a tendency to follow human leaders without having the spiritual wisdom to follow Christ, through Christ's men. And elsewhere in this epistle we find that many of these Christians lived defeated lives. Some of them even came drunk to the Lord's table. One man was living in shameful sin with his stepmother, and others in the church took his part. So there were quarrels. And though Paul writes to these as really born-again Christians, yet he frankly charges that many of them are carnal, defeated, unspiritual Christians.

But the Bible, thank God, shows us just how to be grown-up Christians instead of babies. The Bible shows us how to be happy Christians instead of sad and despondent ones. The Bible shows us how to be fruitful soul winners so that we will not come empty handed to meet our Saviour and be ashamed before Him. The Bible shows us how we may know, know all the time, that we are saved and kept saved by the power of God. The Bible shows us how we may have our prayers answered regularly, daily. And in this little book I will earnestly try to show you God's seven secrets of a happy, prosperous Christian life.

Would you like to be happy all the time, never defeated, never finding yourself estranged from God? Would you like to know how to have your prayers answered every day? Would you like to know how to have the power of the Holy Spirit upon you so you can win souls regularly right on through your life? Would you like to be close enough to God all the time that you could have the leading of the Holy Spirit to know what to do? Well, that is a wonderful thing and I will show you plainly by the Bible just how you may live in that blessed state of a spiritual Christian, just how you can live a happy, victorious, prosperous Christian life all the time!

### The Wonderful Example of the Converts Saved at Pentecost

In the book of Acts we have a marvelous example of New Testament Christians who lived happy and prosperous and victorious lives; who got their prayers

answered, who won their loved ones to Christ, who knew they were saved, who continued on the high plane of daily revival blessing all the time! I refer to the Christians at Jerusalem who were converted at the revival of Pentecost. Since this little book will fall into the hands of many new converts, I want to use these Pentecost converts as an example for you. These converts of the greatest revival in the history of Christianity went on to live for God so boldly and happily that we will do well to study from the Word of God just how they did it. What were the secrets of their wonderfully prosperous and happy Christian lives?

That question is answered in Acts 2:41-47. Let us read this Scripture telling of those who were saved at Pentecost and of what followed in their lives, and learn their seven secrets of a happy, prosperous Christian life.

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized; and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."—Acts 2:41-47.

How my heart is thrilled as I read this passage and see how happy were these new converts, how joyful was their fellowship! They ate their meat "with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God." And the Lord kept on saving souls through their earnest, Spirit-empowered pleading and their glad testimony!

But as we read the passage we note that there did not come a great crisis by which they were instantly made holy, sinless, with all the natural temptations and weaknesses of the human flesh taken away. No, if we study the Scripture here carefully we will find instead there were certain rules these new converts followed and by so doing they continued in the joy and power of the blessed revival in which they were converted. Here we find the seven secrets of a happy Christian life.

You will be surprised, perhaps, when I say that all these seven secrets are shown in this passage. But when I call them to your attention, you will recognize them, I am sure.

**FIRST SECRET:** These converts had the assurance of salvation based upon the plain Word of God. "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized..." (vs. 41).

**SECOND SECRET:** The new converts were baptized, thus publicly confessing Christ, each one thus publicly renouncing and counting dead and burying the old sinner that each had been; and publicly rising from the waters of baptism to live a resurrected life, in the power of Christ. "Then they... were baptized" (vs. 41).

**THIRD SECRET:** The new converts were added to the local assembly of Christians; they joined the church. "And the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (vs. 41). "And they continued stedfastly in... fellowship, and in breaking of bread..." (vs. 42).

**FOURTH SECRET:** They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine, that is, in the Word of God, learning and following and meditating in the teachings of the Bible, which is the apostles' doctrine written down. "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine..." (vs. 42).

**FIFTH SECRET:** They continued constantly in prayer. "And they continued stedfastly... in prayers" (vs. 42).

**SIXTH SECRET:** They put

## Dr. Bob Jones Says:

Our friends will remember that sometime ago we reported that there were approximately nine hundred young men in Bob Jones University preparing for the ministry. Just after the opening of the second semester, Dr. Parker, the Director of Religious Activities, told me that we have enrolled more than one thousand young men in our class of practical instruction for preachers. This includes, of course, the students who came in the second semester and also the young men who have answered the call to preach since the opening of the present school year. The story of the year-by-year increasing enrollment of divinity students in Bob Jones University is one of the most remarkable religious news stories ever released on this continent. Think of an educational institution that is only twenty-two years old having the largest group of young men preparing for the ministry of any educational institution, including theological seminaries, anywhere in the United States. This is not only a fascinating story but a strange story. Bob Jones University is no more a preachers' school than it is a teachers' school, a home economics school, a music school, a school of speech, or some other kind of school. The university does have a very strong School of Religion, but it also has other very strong schools. Think of one-third of our approximately three thousand students preparing to preach the Gospel.

Sometime ago we reported that we had over five hundred young men and young women who are volunteers for the foreign mission field. I understand that counting those who have come in the second semester and the ones who have volunteered as foreign missionaries

during the school year, we now have over six hundred young people preparing for the foreign mission field.

My friends, sometimes the grinding routine and the heavy responsibilities seem almost more than my son, the other executives, and I personally can bear. We need the prayers of God's people. It is a terrific responsibility to train more than a thousand young men to preach the Gospel and over six hundred young people to be foreign missionaries, as well as to train the other hundreds of students for Christian leadership in the various businesses and professions, etc. We are calling on Christian people to pray for us more earnestly than they have ever prayed before. We are also appealing to you to help us financially. God certainly must be in this work. The satanic objections we have would be all the proof we need that God is leading in the plans of Bob Jones University. We have all dedicated our lives to God and the task that we have. You friends can have a real part in the work if you will pray for us and if you will help us financially. We need this million-dollar Student Loan Endowment Fund for which we have been appealing, and we need it very badly. Some of you have already helped and we hope you will help us some more. Some of you have been thinking about helping us but have been putting it off. Please send a contribution of some amount and do it right away. We promise you that we will use every penny you invest carefully and prayerfully so as to do the most good possible to the most people.

BOB JONES,

Bob Jones University

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God first in their possessions, counted all they had as belonging to God and used possessions to please Him. "And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need" (vs. 44, 45).

**SEVENTH SECRET:** They were so joyful, so filled with the Spirit, so constant in their pleading and their testimony for God that they won souls daily. And the church, instead of receiving converts once a year, at Easter, or once a month, received the new converts daily! "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (vs. 47).

Here we have the principles by which these new converts lived. We have their seven secrets of a happy, prosperous Christian life. Oh, if the converts in every revival would set out to live after these same principles, live so joyfully and victoriously and fruitfully, how soon we would see multiplied thousands of souls saved! Well, dear reader, you yourself may learn here and now to live such a happy, victorious and prosperous Christian life by following the example of the Christians at Jerusalem who were converted in the revival at Pentecost. I know these principles work because God has graciously worked them in my own life. And I have seen them demonstrated in the lives of thousands of others. So take most seriously these lessons, and I can assure you that you will be a joyful, victorious Christian, having your prayers answered, winning souls to the Lord and being wonderfully prospered in all good things.

### Get This 64-Page Book on "The Seven Secrets..."

The above article on "New Testament Christians" or "The Seven Secrets of the Wonderfully Happy Converts at Pentecost," is simply the introduction to a book on **Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life**. Besides the above introduction, there are seven strong chapters showing how the Christian can always be happy, can always have his prayers answered, can always win souls, can have everything he does blessed of God and prospered!

For a long time I have wanted to write this book. As I preached on the subject, many, many pastors have urged me to write it.

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### Next Week

Next week look for the remarkable first chapter of the book, **Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life**. It will be chapter one, a full-length sermon on assurance of salvation by the Word of God.

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## A Meditation on Psalm 16

(Continued from Page 2)

white man and a colored man who were sitting on a train. The colored man was trying to lead the white man to Christ. The white man said, "I do not believe there is a God."

The colored man said, "I know, boss—I know there is a God!"

The white man said, "How do you know it?"

"Well," the colored man said, "you know the good Book says that if you will knock the door will open. I knocked and the door opened. I know there is a God!"

It is one thing to look up into the sky and say, "There is a God on the throne..." Every fool knows that. "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." He did not say it with his head. He did not mean to say from his heart that there was no God. What he meant was: "No God for me!" There is not a man on earth who does not in his head know there is a God. It is one thing to say, "Yes, there is a God up there." But it is another thing to look up in the sky at night, see all the stars that shine like diamonds and say, "Oh, God is up there, and He is my Father. He belongs to me. All His omnipotence, all of His resources, are at my command."

"O my soul, thou hast said unto the Lord, Thou art my Lord."

Years ago an old railroad train wrecked in Georgia. Cars rolled down the embankment. People were crying out in pain. An old-time, gray-headed preacher stuck his head up through a broken window and cried out, "I'm trusting God; who are the rest of you trusting?"

It is one thing to say, "Yonder is a God." It is another thing to say, "He is my Father." That is the faith that grips and claims.

Now let us read up to, and in to the fourth verse.

### Sorrows Multiply for Those Who Run After Other Gods

"O my soul, thou hast said unto the Lord, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee; But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight. Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god..."

That is true of the nations of this earth. The nations that hasten after other gods have their sorrows multiplied. That is what is the matter with America. Civilization may change a man's idols, but unregenerated men will always have idols. This country does not worship God. This is a godless country. We have hastened after other gods: the god of pleasure, the god of loose living, the god of greed, the god of money. We throw kisses at ourselves and pat ourselves on the back. Then we say, "We must help Europe and the distressed peoples of earth." What for? Because it is right? No, not that. We must help them so they will help us. Selfish!

"Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god." I never knew a man who had a false god who did not accumulate sorrows. Men who make money, for instance, are usually unhappy men. I see some women who run around after pleasure. Their lives are one long joyless pursuit of joy.

### The Lord Himself Is the Christian's Portion and Wealth

"Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink-offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips. The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup..." vs. 4 and 5.

There is not any poverty there. Somehow I have never had much respect for poor-mouthed Christians. I heard Mel Trotter say one time that he had seen many a religious bum but that he had never seen a Christian tramp. David said, "I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." He did not say that it had never happened; he said he had never seen it. But David had seen a great

deal in his lifetime.

I have been up and down this land. And I have always found that somehow or other God has a way of taking care of His own. Somehow God comes at the right time. I can testify to that. As I look back over the years I cannot think of anything that ever happened to me that was not just what I needed—not my sins, but the providential dealings along the way of life. I never lost any money but that I found it was good that I lost it. I never had a sorrow that was not good for me. I never had a funeral in my family that did not turn out to be good for me. I do not think God sends everything; God permits some things to come. But God will not let anything hurt me if I am a surrendered man.

"The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup; thou maintainest my lot." It is a wonderful thing to be able to look up and say, "The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance."

Down South somebody said to a modernist preacher: "What do you think about Bob Jones?"

The modernist said, "I think he does the biggest business on the smallest capital of any man I ever knew." The man was nice enough to tell me about it. He said, "What do you think about that?"

"Well," I said, "he doesn't know anything about my capital."

"I haven't much but I sure do have a rich Partner!" You do not have to have much. Listen! God has enough for you! I do not like for Christians to go around mouthing and complaining. I do not like them to be always talking about hard times. Say, listen! "The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance!"

My wife has an artistic mind; so does my son. If you hang a picture too low at one corner, Mrs. Jones will have the headache if you do not straighten it. She cannot stand for things not to be in order, for things to be all jumbled together. She sometimes comes into my office and fixes up my desk. (I can't find a thing—I could find things better if they would just leave it alone!) She says, "I don't see how you can stand things all out of order." Listen, I made up my mind long time ago that I must live in a world all out of joint. Nothing in this world is exactly right. Pictures hang too low at one side. You are never exactly comfortable. You sit down at night and something punches you. I never had a suit of clothes that did not pinch me somewhere. Your corn hurts. When you go to bed at night something is wrong—the sheet has a wrinkle in it, or something else is wrong. But I learned a long time ago how to get through when things are not right.

Count your blessings,  
Name them one by one;  
Count your blessings,  
See what God hath done!

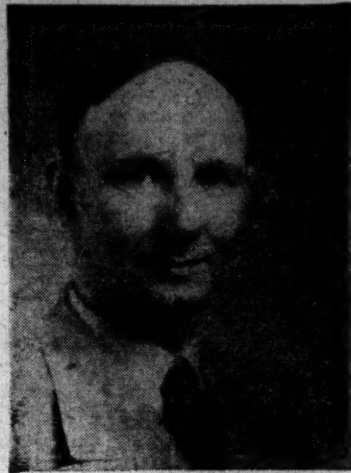
There is not a condition that God ever put a person in but that there was something there to bless.

I knew a brilliant lawyer in the South, a fine, clean fellow. He married a beautiful girl. One day he developed a peculiar type of paralysis. He could not move a finger. He was the most helplessly helpless cripple I ever knew.

One day that lovely wife died. I was in the home, and there she lay, ready to be buried. They rolled the man up to the coffin, lifted his head up so he could see his dead wife. Tears began to run down his cheeks and somebody had to dry his tears. I said, "I have had some tears myself but I could always wipe them away." Thank God you have a hand to dry your tears. Then I said to myself, "Since he cannot wipe his own tears, isn't it nice that he has somebody to wipe them away for him." There is always a golden light. God never lets us down. Paul in prison could turn over to Silas and say, "Let's sing something." Jesus said, "Lo, I am with you, always, even unto

## DR. J. C. MACAULAY

Pastor Wheaton Bible Church, Wheaton, Illinois



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the end of the world [age]. God never lets us down!

### The Christian Should Set God Always Before Him

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage. I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons. I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved."—vs. 6-8.

I have been in a hurry to get to this word: "I have set the Lord always before me..." Always! Not just when I am in trouble but also when I am prosperous; not just when I am prosperous, but also when I am in trouble.

"I have set the Lord always before me..." Dr. Rice, that is praying without ceasing. God always before me. The last thing at night when you go to bed: God; the first thing in the morning: God.

I saw a great preacher look out over a startled crowd one time and say something that made me shudder. He said, "Would you know the difference if God were dead?" Well, of course that could not be, but let's imagine that it could be. Let's imagine that while

just have to do the best you can. There just isn't any God." Would you know it before the angel came? Some of us would. We would say, "Where is God? God, where have you gone? Something has gone out of my life. It is dark. It is night. Where is God!"

"I have set the Lord always before me." Whether in business or pleasure—everywhere, under any circumstances, in all conditions—I have set the Lord before me.

"Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad..."

You know, most people have just enough religion to keep them uncomfortable. They have enough of the world to keep them from enjoying Jesus; they have just enough of Jesus to keep them from enjoying the world. They have just a little of both. If you want to know the secret of living a happy Christian life, just give God first place. Not your wife, not your husband, not your child, but give God first place. Listen! When God has His proper place, everything else has its proper relationship. The way to put business in its place and education in its place and home life in its place and social life in its place—the way to put everything in its proper place is to put God first.

### The Christian Can Let His Body Go to the Grave With Hope of a Blessed Resurrection

"Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope."—vs. 9.

I told you that this is one of the Messianic Psalms. It refers to Christ as well as to us. I will have to stop at this verse for just a minute. "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."

There is no intermediate state of the dead. If you are a Christian and if you were to die tonight you would go immediately to be with Jesus.

A man said to me not long ago, "It is so far away to Heaven and so far away to Hell." It isn't! You are closer than you realize. Do you know how far you are tonight from Heaven if you are a Christian? There is just a heartbeat between you and that place. I have often thought how a saint must feel—one second on a deathbed, folks around him crying—and the next second in Heaven. What a wonderful change in climate—moving out of the winter and coldness of this world, and from the chilly atmosphere of a death chamber, into eternal springtime!

"Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption"—vs. 10.

Jesus' body did not see corruption. It is the most wonderful thing in the world to know that God puts a marker on the grave of His own. I stood at my mother's grave the other day. Fifty years or longer she has been dead. I got to wondering about the coffin. She was not buried in a metallic coffin. I got to thinking about the dust of her body all mixed up there and I wondered how it looked. But I said, "God marks the spot."

You are going to be raised from the dead some day.

I have been to the tomb of Abraham. I have stood there in

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# A Meditation on Psalm 16

(Continued from Page 4)

that mosque built over his grave. (I am just putting this in by the way of parenthesis; it does not belong in this message.) Think how long he and Sarah have been sleeping. All these centuries their bodies have lain there — armies have marched, battles have been fought. One day Abraham will shake the dust off his old shroud and say, "Sarah, let's get up; the Lord is here!"

A man said to me, "I'm not interested in my body." Well, I am. I like my body. I have lived in this old house sixty-five years. That is a long time to live in one house. If I have to move out I want God Almighty to make it over some day and put resurrection power into it. "My flesh shall rest in hope."

Listen! You will share with Christ. He is the "first fruits of them that slept," and we are going to be raised, too.

## The Blessed Path of Life, Leading to Glory

"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore"—vs. 11.

The way to Heaven is often described as a path or a narrow way. It is called somewhere "the old way." That is what it is. It is an old road. Did you know there is nothing new about what we have here? Two thousand years ago people assembled like this. Away back in the old days Abraham traveled this road. Moses went this way. Job journeyed this way. The Psalmist David sang down the road you are traveling. Paul and Silas journeyed this way. The martyr Stephen left his bloodstain on the road. It is the old way. My old grandmother journeyed this way. My mother went before me. You are on an old road. "Tis the old-time religion, and it is good enough for me." You can look for something new, brother, if you want to; but I am satisfied with what I have. It was good for my old mother and it is good enough for me. It has been tried in fiery furnaces, in dungeons, in lions' dens and on battlefields; and it is good enough for me! It is the old way.

It has been called the way everlasting. I like that.

Years ago when I was a young fellow I was in southeast Alabama driving a buggy. I got off the road and it led me up to a man's plantation. I turned around, went back and got on another road. It led up to another man's field. I got on another road and it led me up to another man's place. I had to go back several times to get on the right road. That is the way with the roads in this world—they all lead to a dead end.

Take the road of money. When I was a boy we used to talk about John D. Rockefeller. Old man John! We used to talk about a million dollars. That sounded like money in those days—before Mr. Roosevelt got to talking about billions! We could not conceive of a million dollars, but I used to wonder what he did with so much money. But one day old man John wrote his last check. That hand that could write millions of dollars was so helpless that somebody had to lay it on his breast. And all the thrill and excitement of money and business passed away.

I was in the New York Convention when Al Smith was trying to take it over and when William Jennings Bryan hushed that crowd to silence. I was on my way to Europe. I sat in that

convention. I studied mob psychology. I never shall forget what I witnessed. I never shall forget that night when Bryan spoke. They hissed him all over the place. One newspaper said he had reached the age of toothless senility. But I saw Bryan hush them into silence. I thought of the thrill that must have come to him as he stood there that night and by the power of eloquence held that crowd into subjection. It was a thrill!

I thought of heroes of battle. I thought of Truman, a man nobody thought would be president. Even the bosses did not think it worth-while to support him. But by some turn of the wheel of fortune, or something, he went back victorious. I saw in the paper his smiling picture taken at Florida. He will not smile long. He will soon be an old man. People will put him to bed with a shovel. They will vore him up with dirt. If they shoot some guns over his grave he will not hear them. The roads end—all the roads end.

Take the way of pleasure. Here is a woman in society. She is there tonight shuffling cards. She is there tomorrow night at a cocktail party. But after a while old Father Time comes up and pinches wrinkles in her face. Her eyes get dim. She tries to rub out the wrinkles but she cannot. Her hair gets white. And after a while the trembling hand of that society woman gets quiet. She is dead. But, Christians, listen: you and I have just begun to have our thrills! We have just started. We have just sung the preliminary song. The great anthem has not yet been started. The way everlasting! It is called here "the path of life." The psalmist says, "Thou wilt shew me the path of life."

I do not know what life is. Nobody knows. I know what the scientists say it is, but we do not really know what it is. But I will tell you what you can do. You can tell when you are alive. There are certain responses you have when you are alive.

A doctor comes to your home. He holds a mirror in front of your face and there is no stain on it. He takes a stethoscope and examines your heart. There is no response. The doctor says you are dead.

Do you want to know whether you are alive spiritually tonight? There is an easy way to find out. If you are alive spiritually you will respond to the Lord Jesus Christ. That is the thing to which you respond. You will find that always and everywhere the exaltation of Christ delights the hearts of saved people. Listen! No man is a saved man who does not respond to the gospel. A man says, "Can I be a Christian and not believe in the deity of Christ?" Listen! Every Christian believes in the deity of Christ. You know He is God.

I have heard great men speak. I have been on great occasions and have had many experiences. But nothing else ever moved me as a gospel sermon moves me. Nothing ever sent such chills up and down my backbone as a good Christian testimony. The thrill of it! It is indescribable—that something that makes me tingle to the finger tips. When I see a light in the eye of a man and hear him get up and say, "I know Jesus; Jesus saved me," there is something about it that appeals to me as nothing else appeals to me.

The story is told of a painter who stood in the presence of a great picture. As he stood there and looked at it a shadow came over his face. He dropped his

head. Then he looked up and smiled as he said, "I'm not that kind of artist. I have never been able to paint like that and I shall never be able to paint like that. But, thank God, I am a painter."

I stand in the presence of men of God, men like Paul and Peter and John. I see John looking through the prophetic telescope on the isle of Patmos. I hear David singing his songs. I move around with men in my generation and I say, "Well, I do not have all they had but, thank God, I have the main thing. I have Jesus!"

Life, life, LIFE—the abundant life; life so abundant you cannot describe it but you know you have it!

The psalmist says, "Thou wilt shew me the path of life." God never told us about Heaven without telling us how to get there. God never told us about salvation without telling us how we could get it. God never lets us dream dreams that do not come true and never lets us hope hopes that will always fade—not God! God does not do things like that. "Thou wilt shew me the path of life."

One time I was going along a country road. I saw a woman and said, "Could you tell me how to get on the road down here to go to a certain place?"

She said, "Yes. Go down that way, take the first right-hand road." Then she said, "No, wait a minute; I believe if I were you I would go to the second right-hand road." Then again she said, (Continued on Page 8)

# Don't Be An Ignoramus

(Continued from page 1)

No man ever got anywhere with God who did not first find out that he is a guilty, Hell-deserving, lost sinner. Jesus only saves lost people. He said, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Men love to argue their merits and goodness, but all the while they argue there is great evidence on every hand of their depravity. Every jail, every policeman, every hospital, every graveyard, every infirmary, every broken home, every broken heart and every sad, tear-stained face is a witness to man's sinful nature. Adam and Eve KNEW they had sinned. "The eyes of them both were opened, and they KNEW they were naked . . ." (Gen. 3:7). Achan KNEW it. He said, "Indeed I have sinned against the Lord God" (Josh. 7:20). Isaiah KNEW it when he said, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6). David KNEW this, and he said, "They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one" (Psa. 14:3). Again he said, "My sin is ever before me" (Psa. 51:3). Paul KNEW. He said, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).

My poor sinner friend, may God

help you to see and KNOW that you are a sinner. Only sinners get saved. Only sinners get forgiven. Christ died for sinners, the ungodly, the lost! He said, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" and, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick."

## II. We KNOW Him

John said of the Pharisees, "There standeth one among you, whom ye KNOW NOT" (John 1:26). The Pharisees knew about the law; they knew about fasting and praying; they knew about tithing; they knew about doctrines and creeds and ceremony and customs and practices, but they did not know Jesus! What John said about the Pharisees of his day and Jesus' day can be said about many church people across the nation today. They have a creed but not Christ; a religion but no Saviour. They pray the so-called Lord's Prayer but they do not know the Lord of the prayer. But, thank God, you can KNOW Him! All of my life I have known about Him. I heard about Him at my mother's knee, in the little Sunday School class, at the little country church; but thank God, fourteen years ago I came to KNOW Him personally and vitally as my Saviour. To KNOW Christ was foremost in the heart and mind of Paul. He said, "I count all things but loss for the

(Continued on page 6)

## Books By LEADING CHRISTIANS OF AMERICA

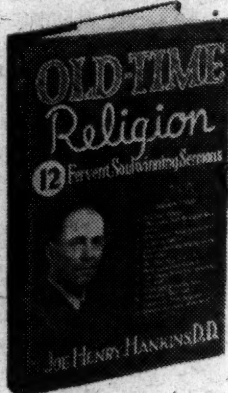
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## Don't Be An Ignoramus

(Continued from page 5)

excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord . . . that I may KNOW Him" (Phil. 3:8, 10).

The first two days after I was converted in a little country church, nestled amidst the red clay hills of north Alabama, I read my New Testament through from beginning to end. I shall never forget how I felt, when I read through the gospels and got a vision of Jesus on the cross. I saw Him robed in blood and crowned with thorns. I saw Him wounded and naked and bleeding and forsaken. It broke my heart. I wept many tears. Oh, how I pitied Him! I read on in the book of Acts about how the enemies of the cross beat the early Christians. I read of the stoning of Stephen and I was moved in pity for him. I read of Paul before Felix and Drusilla, and I shed tears of sympathy for Paul. I read of the poor man at the gate of the rich man, in the sixteenth chapter of Luke, and I wept for him. I read on to Revelation and there I saw Jesus exalted and glorified; I saw the saints safely in the New Jerusalem, and I saw all sinners and the Devil himself cast into the bottomless pit; then my attitude changed. I no longer pitied Stephen. He died and went to Glory shouting and praying, and some glad day he will receive a martyr's crown. I then felt so sad for those poor blind, wicked, deceived sinners who stoned him to death. I no longer wept over Paul. He lost his head on the execution block at Rome, but he did not lose his soul! Oh, the man I pity, the man I weep over, lose sleep over, carry a broken heart about is the man who does not KNOW Him. Thank God, I KNOW Him! He walks with me and talks with me and tells me I am His own. He never leaves me nor forsakes me. He KNOWS me, too, and loves me. I am the apple of His eye! He knows my name and where I live and keeps me singing and happy and satisfied. Friend, do you KNOW Him or do you just know about Him?

### III. We Can KNOW We Are Saved

Some years ago a man sat in my office and contended for two hours that a child of God could not know for sure that he was saved. He said, "Brother Tom, you are conceited and presumptuous to say so dogmatically that you KNOW that you are saved. When we get to Heaven," he said, "the good Lord will weigh our good deeds against the bad, and if the good outweigh the bad, then we will be saved; but we can't know now."

How foolish! We need not be ignorant of this Bible fact. It is neither conceit nor presumption. It is Scriptural assurance. Paul KNEW he was saved before he ever went to Heaven. He said, "I KNOW whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Tim. 1:12). God wants you to have assurance. The Gospel of John was written that you might be saved. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you might have life through his name" (John 20:31). The First Epistle of John was written that you might KNOW that you are saved. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life . . ." (I John 5:13). The blind man of the ninth chapter of John was not able to speak in great theological terms concerning the identity and deity of Jesus, but he said, "One thing I KNOW, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."

I have often been asked, "How do you know you are saved?" My answer is, because the Bible tells me I am saved. In John 5:24 we read, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath [that is, right now] everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." I heard the

Word and I believed, and, praise God, Jesus says I am saved! I KNOW it to be true. Some say, "I know I'm saved because I feel good and light and gay and I cry easily," etc. All these things are true of a drunk man!

I have a minister friend who tells this very unusual experience about assurance. He says that one night in a revival campaign he went forward in response to the invitation. He wanted to be saved and he did not want to have any doubt about it afterward. Three elderly men came and knelt around him to assist him. One brother on his right hand pounded him on the back and said, "Hold on, Brother, hold on!"

My friend said that he thought within himself, "What can I hold on to? I have nothing but my dirty sins, and I must not hold on to them."

The man on his left said, "Let go, Brother, let go!"

"But," he said, "I did not know how to let go. I was so confused."

The third man who knelt behind him added to the confusion by pounding him in the back and shouting, "Pray through, Brother, pray through!"

"Pray indeed," he thought; "how can I pray! I'm not a Christian. I am in no position to go into God's presence."

Just at this time the evangelist came with his Bible opened to John 3:16 and said, "Young man, simply receive the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, asking Him to forgive you of your sin and believe that He does. The Spirit of God shall come into your heart and bear witness that you are a child of God. Believe, young man, believe!" My friend said that he did believe and was born into God's family and has never doubted his salvation. Yes, we can KNOW that we are saved.

Some years ago Mrs. Malone and I were traveling by car from Pontiac, Michigan, going to Coshocton, Ohio, where I was to hold an evangelistic campaign. The main highway was under repair and we were forced to take a detour. The road was very narrow and crooked. We travelled along for about an hour and I began to suspicion that we had somehow missed the way and were lost. After another half hour or so I saw a car slowly approaching and the driver was frantically waving his arm out the window, motioning for me to stop, and I did. He got out of the car and with a look of disgust, said, "Can you tell me which way is North?" I said, "No, friend, I cannot. You see, I'm not certain about which way I am going either." Now, I couldn't possibly show him the way when I was not certain about it myself. How can we help poor lost souls to KNOW the way to Heaven if we do not know ourselves? God wants us to know and we can.

### IV. We KNOW That All Things Work Together for Good to Them That Love God

What a blessed truth this is! What peace and confidence it brings to the heart of a Christian! In Romans 8:28 we read, "And we KNOW that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Notice that the verse says, "all things work together for good" in the life of a Christian—not just the big things, not just the pleasant things, but "all things." Many, many times have I turned to this verse when my heart was heavy and claimed its blessed truth. When disappointments come and heartaches come, we can still say we KNOW that all things work together for good for God's child.

I was talking with a preacher once on a platform of a church during the song service. I had just been introduced to him. Our second child, a little boy, was just a few days old and I was a very happy father. I said to him, "Brother, do you have any children?"

He very sadly answered, "No, Brother Tom. I had a little boy, but he died when he was nine years old. He was a little Christian boy and the Lord took him

Home. As a result, I surrendered to the will of God for my life, entered the ministry and God has helped me to win souls. I miss him so much, but I suppose it was the only thing that would cause me to surrender completely to Christ. And I'll see him when Jesus comes."

Yes, we KNOW that all things work together for good. Joseph was sold into Egypt, but it worked for his good and in Egypt he was highly honored. Paul and Silas were thrown in jail, but it worked for their good and they were able to lead the Philippian jailer and all his family to Christ. A little Jewess maid was taken as a slave into a Syrian home, but it worked for good and she was able to tell Naaman what to do to be healed of his leprosy.

### V. I KNOW Where I Am Going

I KNOW I am going to Heaven. Thank God, fourteen years ago I made my reservation by trusting the Lord Jesus Christ! In II Corinthians 5:1 we read, "For we KNOW that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." I had rather know this and have it fixed and settled in my heart than to have all the wealth of the world.

A traveling salesman once stopped along the highway and inquired from a little country lad as to the distance and direction to the next town. The little farmer boy was timid and backward, and his answer to each of several questions put to him was, "I don't know." The salesman became angry and said, "Well, don't you know anything?" "Yes," said the boy, "I KNOW where I'm going and I KNOW I'm not lost!"

Do you KNOW where you are going? May God help you today to confess your sin and turn to Christ and you can then KNOW you are saved.

## Book Reviews

Any book reviewed in this column may be ordered direct from the Sword Book Club, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

### Before Abraham

By BYRON C. NELSON  
(116 pages, Augsburg Publishing Company, price \$1.50)

Dr. V. Raymond Edman: "Here is a choice little volume for thoughtful young people who are bewildered by the implications of science, so called. Here we find thoughtful and Scriptural answers to the wild hypotheses to which our young people in high school and college are subjected. The nine chapters dealing with the Scriptures and the facts of anthropology and geology are short, concise, documented, and excellently summarized, so that the argument is stated succinctly and accurately."

"Possibly, the author stresses unduly the possibility of large gaps in Bible chronology. Without doubt such gaps do exist in the Sacred Record, which were not intended to be a complete statement of any given family. It does not seem necessary to extend the human family far beyond the traditional 4,000 years before Christ, to account for the human remains which have been found. After all, such remains are always found in gravel deposits, and not in the rock, by which they usually are 'dated.'"

"To my way of thinking this is an unusually valuable little book, for high school and college students, for parents, Sunday school teachers and pastors. It will be useful in steering many a young life away from the shoals of false and unsound science."

### Clods of Coal

The late Bishop Knox of Manchester, England, told a story of a miner who called himself an infidel. One day in the mine some coal began to fall, and the man cried out: "Lord, save me!" Then a fellow miner turned to him and said: "Aye, there's nothing like clods of coal to knock the infidelity out of a man."

—Pulpit Digest.

## Write Us A Letter!

(Continued from page 1)

pages. This expensive and beautifully-printed book, made to sell for 35 cents a copy, will now be given away absolutely free to everyone who writes a letter and asks for it, during this letter month. We want to give you a blessing, and we want your letter. So, both for the comfort it will be to us and for the good it will do you, I urge you, write that letter today!

You need this book for yourself. Every Christian will find here a Bible manual on the way to success and happiness. You need not be defeated! You may have your prayers answered regularly. You may always know for sure that you are God's child, that you are saved. You may know just how to give and live so that God will supply all your needs. You can be a successful soul winner. And these things are clearly taught in this new book, **The Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life**. Do you know some young Christians who need the book? Will you not write for your copy at once?

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In letter month last year we received nearly twelve thousand letters. In the last week of the month there will be a flood of mail. The early letters have a much better chance to be printed. So get yours in the mail as soon as possible.

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Note that you cannot get the Vest Pocket Companion and the box of greeting cards both for a \$5 order. You can get both for a \$7.00 retail order. Or you may get two of these Vest Pocket Companions for a \$4.00 retail order, or more, just so it is not counted also for credit toward greeting cards.

We are glad to make it worth your while to write us and send your subscriptions and orders during March, our letter month. Send a subscription today at \$2.00 a year (\$2.50 a year in Canada and foreign countries) and get Dr. R. A. Torrey's 118-page Vest Pocket Companion free.

### A Special Offer: In March Only, the Book, "THE HOME: Courtship, Marriage and Children," by the Editor, May Be Had for \$2.00

Thirty-eight thousand copies have been printed of the editor's large book, **THE HOME: Courtship, Marriage and Children**. It has 381 pages, twenty-two chapters; and it is so beautifully bound and jacketed that it would ordinarily sell for \$3.00. The regular price is \$2.50. However, during letter month only (March, 1949), we have decided to sell this

(Continued on Page 7)

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## IS IT WRONG TO HAVE CHRISTIAN MOTION PICTURES IN CHURCH?

Dear Miss J—

I have faced very honestly and prayerfully the whole question of the use of movies for getting out the gospel. If you are familiar with my book on *What Is Wrong With the Movies?* you will believe in my sincerity on this matter. However, I am thoroughly convinced that any devices or means that can be used for getting out the gospel is to be used if it can reach more people. I have had two sermon films made which are already being greatly used of God. One is the sermon on "The Dying Thief" and by it I preach every day in places all around the world. In one service forty-two people were saved, I am told, and we have heard again and again of people being converted through this message. Actually the voice is my voice and they see the picture just as they would see me in the pulpit, with some added illustrations. I see no reason why any gift or any good thing or wise thing could be counted as belonging to the Devil.

You speak of a good preacher who preaches in the power of God and has souls saved. Thank God for his ministry! But if you think that he uses no devices, no "tricks" as you say, then you certainly are not familiar with the problems of a public speaker as I am. I, too, preach to great crowds, preach simply, earnestly and, by God's mercy, powerfully so that many, many thousands have been saved in my services. But I had three years' training in expression, three years of voice training in preparation. I had studies in homiletics or sermon-making. Besides that, it has been a constant study, a constant seeking of ways and means to express things, forcefully and clearly. And every good preacher, every consecrated and greatly used preacher likewise uses every

good device he can. Music is a device just as truly as a picture show machine. A pipe organ or piano or violin is a device used for the glory of God. To have sinners hold their hands expressing a need for prayer is a device.

I believe that it is a kind of Phariseism to think that the methods with which we are familiar are right and that other methods are wrong. Rather, we should, like Paul, seek to be "all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (I Cor. 9:22).

You say, "No good can possibly come from movies in church. If so—why not have cards as long as we don't gamble?" Well, Christians do use cards to glorify God. We have Scripture memory verses printed on cards and use them for memory work. We have precious promise boxes and some families use them for devotions. The device of cards can be used for the Lord and ought to be, even though playing cards have been used by the Devil.

The paper machines that make the paper in cards are not wrong. The cutting and printing machines that make playing cards are not wrong. It is the gambling with playing cards that is wrong. No Christian ought to play with playing cards, and I do not think we should even have them in the house, but that does not mean that it is wrong to use some kinds of cards in the Lord's work or wrong to use paper machines or printing presses.

So the moving picture machine itself can be used and is used to teach Christians and win souls and glorify God. I do not believe that any Christian ought to go to any commercial picture show, but we ought to use everything we can to get out the gospel.

I thank you for your inquiry. In the Saviour's name, yours,  
John R. Rice.

JRR/vw

## Whose Is the Bible?

(Continued from page 1)

produced by them? The proposition loses its seriousness and becomes almost silly when it is stated. The canon of the New Testament is the received and accepted books revealing the mind and the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and they are accounted so not by one sect only but by all the Christian peoples of all time.

### God's Inspired Word

The churches—the followers of Christ, ancient, modern, Asiatic, European, all who call on the name of Jesus, the sects of the Reformation, the Greek sect, the Armenian sects, the Syrian sect, the Roman Catholic sect—even the Unitarian sect—all testify to the canon of the New Testament which we have in our Bible. The Scriptures of the New Testament were written by the apostles and by close associates of the apostles. The books were loved and read and carefully preserved by the early Christians through the years.

God Himself in the passing of time impressed upon the minds and the hearts of His children the worth and the inspiration of these writings. The ancient councils merely approved what was already received among the Chris-

tian people as the inspired Word of God. No council could include a book that was not already sealed by the approval of God among the people; nor could any council exclude a book that God had given to the churches.

Take, for example, the book of Hebrews. No one knew who wrote it. Yet God said through the Spirit to the churches that it was His inspired Word. He says so today. In our New Testament you will find the book. What the councils did or did not do is immaterial. The people of God through the centuries recognized it as inspired and it became a part of the New Testament.

The gathering together of the New Testament Scriptures occurred during the two or three centuries after Christ and it was done by the Holy Spirit through the minds and the hearts of the early Christian people. The books of the canon are their own apologies. They were revered as the Word of God among believers in the East, in the West, in Africa, wherever the Gospel message of Christ was preached.

All this occurred before there was such a thing as a bishop at Rome claiming possession of all the heritage of the Lord. During those days the church at Rome was just one among many others and if there were any bishops of the churches who claimed precedence and authority over others, they were more likely to be the bishops of the East, the patriarchs of Jerusalem, Antioch and Constantinople than of the West.

For the modern bishop of Rome and his papal sect to lay claim to the New Testament Scriptures is as absurd as for them to appropriate the Hebrew Old Testament.

Now that the Roman Catholic Church has brought up this issue of the Bible, exactly what has been the attitude of the hierarchy toward it? Their record is full of shame and bigotry and intolerance.

erance. Instead of being a friend or the Bible the Roman Church has been and still is its worst enemy. Under their hands it was suppressed for hundreds and hundreds of years. Even the priests themselves were ignorant of it.

### Scriptures Forbidden

When the Renaissance came with its intellectual freedom it brought a burning desire for learning that resulted in the reading of the Scriptures in their original languages and their translation into the vernacular of the people. What was the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church toward this discovery of the Bible? It fought to the death the translation, the distribution and the reading of the Scriptures.

They made it an offense punishable by death even to possess a copy of the Word of God. They declared the saintly scholar John Wycliff, of Balliol College, Oxford, a heretic for publishing the Scriptures in English. He died in 1384 but they dug up his bones in 1415 to cast them upon a dunghill, later changed their minds, burned the remains with fire and threw the ashes in the river Swift, a tributary of the Avon.

It is the own avowal of the Catholic Church that "Rome never changes." Pope Pius VII in 1816 issued a papal bull declaring that organizations for the distribution of the Scriptures are "a fiendish instrument for the undermining of the foundations of religion." His successor, Pope Leo XII, in an encyclical epistle dated May, 1824, mournfully complains about Bible Societies "which violate the traditions of the fathers and the Council of Trent by circulating the Scriptures in the vernacular tongues of all nations."

This particular pope continues: "In order to avert this pest, our predecessors have published several constitutions tending to show how pernicious for the faith and for morals this perfidious institution (the Bible Society) is." From another of the bulls of the bishops of Rome is this sentence: "It does not belong to the people to read the Bible."

### Impossible to Destroy

The first three centuries of the Christian Era saw imperial Rome cast to the wild beasts those found in possession of the holy books. After the development, centuries later, of what we know as papal Rome, the same thing happened. Those found reading the Bible were burned at the stake, imprisoned, maimed, tortured, tormented.

And yet today that same false church comes forward as the sole possessor and champion of the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures! Every page of history denies that this is true. Every missionary on the foreign field denies the truth of the assertion made by the members of this church. Their own consciences testify against them.

For ages they have despised the Holy Word and exalted their own tradition; yet have they not been able to destroy the oracles of God that condemn them. They have been compelled in spite of themselves to leave untampered the books of the Bible—even as they were given of God to His people.

Whose Book is it? God's Book. Who gave it to us? God. Through His prophets and apostles. Who preserved it? God. To whom does it belong? To God and to us. Let no man rob you of your heritage.

### Moody Gospel Team Available for Rural Church April 21-28

In Moody Bible Institute a group of four men, including musician, a song leader and two preachers, have gotten a burden for lost souls and would like to go to any rural district within reasonable distance of Chicago for revival services April 21-28. They would be content with any accommodations and freewill offering given, just so there was a chance to win souls. Any interested please write:

Mr. Wayne M. Meyers  
153 Institute Place  
Chicago 10, Illinois

## Write Us A Letter!

(Continued from page 6)

book for only \$2.00. You may send the \$2.00 for the book and we will pay postage. Or you may have the book sent C. O. D., pay the postman the \$2.00, plus a few cents postage and C. O. D. fee. In any case, we guarantee the book to be a blessing, and we will return your money if the book is not satisfactory. (Of course that would mean if the book is returned to us undamaged and unmarked.) This book is a wonderful value at \$2.50. At \$2.00 you ought to get extra copies as wedding gifts, as birthday gifts, and to help young married couples who need Christian counsel on marriage and family matters.

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Last year we had a large folder printed with twenty-one pictures, showing the *Sword of the Lord* building and workers and departments, and describing our work. Of that large folder we have some copies left. It was printed last year and some of it is out of date, but if you did not get a copy, please mention it now when you write and we will send it.

### Special Instructions!

Here are some special instructions and suggestions about the letters for letter month.

1. Please do not write us letters and expect us to pay the postage unless you send subscriptions or orders. If you have a *Sword of the Lord* envelope, put your own postage on it, unless you are sending in subscriptions or book orders. Do not cost us extra expense.

2. Be sure to state exactly what you want. We will not send the beautiful new book, *The Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life*, with seven chapters, plus the introduction, sixty-four pages, unless you ask for it. If you want it, ask for it. It is expensive and we do not want to waste copies, but are glad to

send a copy to friends who write and particularly ask for it.

3. Please do not ask for extra copies of the book, *The Seven Secrets of a Happy, Prosperous Christian Life*, for others. You should send cash, 35c a copy, for any besides the one free copy offered you for writing.

4. Notice again that if you send a retail order for \$5.00 or more and expressly state that you want free the beautiful box of fourteen assorted greeting cards, you may have it. But be sure to ask for it!

5. *The Vest Pocket Companion for Soul Winners* is offered with retail orders of \$2.00 or more. If you want this beautiful and helpful little book, be sure to say so in the same letter that contains your order. Do not ask us later and cause extra confusion or expense to us. And remember, please, that if you get the *Vest Pocket Companion* with a \$2.00 retail order you cannot count that \$2.00 order on a larger order to get credit for the greeting cards, also. The *Vest Pocket Companion* may be had for \$2.00 or more in a retail order or subscription. The box of assorted Scripture greeting cards may be had free with a \$5.00 order, or more, of books or subscriptions. You may have both for a \$7.00 order, or more.

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We want reports of those saved through our literature. We want you to send subscriptions, send book orders. We want your questions, your comments, your advice. And besides, we write to you every week, so we think you should write to us at least one good letter during the month. Don't make it too long, but write today; and God bless you!

Write the Editor, *Sword of the Lord*, 214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Ill.

### WITH THE EDITOR

It is remarkable how God continues to bless my book, *Bobbed Hair, Bossy Wives, and Women Preachers* (clothbound, 6 chapters, \$1). We do not advertise it as much as some of the books, but we hear regularly of wonderful spiritual blessings to those who read it. A good pastor writes:

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The book is not frivolous but is full of *Real Bible* teaching. At the very first it was highly commended by three teachers of New Testament in sound theological seminaries, and the 23,000 copies published have been greatly blessed of God. It really leads to surrender, to a better understanding of God's plan for men and women in the home. It has led a number to Christ.

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## A Meditation on Psalm 16

(Continued from Page 5)

"No, maybe not. Maybe you had better take the first right-hand road. Let me see..." She was a lovely woman but she spent about fifteen minutes mixing me up. So many people do that in this world.

Do you want to know the way home? Do you want to know the way of life? Well, see the priest. Call on the Virgin. Count your beads. Be charitable. Take communion. Be baptized. Turn over a new leaf. Quit your meanness—do this; do that; do the other! There are ten thousand voices! After a while I come to somebody who knows. I say, "Jesus, they are all saying so many different things. I would like to have You to tell me, please, how to get Home. I really want to go to Heaven. Would You mind telling me?"

Jesus says, "Do you really want to know the way?"

"Yes, I want to know." He says, "I am the way." Do you want to know the road? "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

### At the End: Fullness of Joy in the Presence of God

"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy." He connects His presence with the way. I remember a cold, rainy, stormy night. The wind was blowing. I went up to a country home and spent about ten minutes trying to wake a man up. I never did get him awake but I got him up. He came to the door and I said, "My friend, I am off the road. I am lost. Can you tell me how to go?" And in his sleepy way he told me. I listened the best I could, said, "Thank you," pulled my horse around and started off. Just as I started he said, "You had better wait a minute; you might miss that road." In a little while his little boy came out with a torch. He said, "My boy will show you." The little boy walked in front of my horse until he got me on the right road. God does something like that. God says, "I'll tell you how to go and then, so there will not be any mistake about it, I will go with you." "In thy presence is fullness of joy."

You know, God made the heart of man for His earthly home. You can put the world in any man's heart and it rolls around. You can give a man everything in his heart except God, and it is still empty. But when God comes in He fills it. Listen! "Thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit..." (Isa. 57:15). God fixed your heart for His earthly home. That is where God lives now.

"In thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." Sinners think they have a lot of fun. They do not know what fun we Christians have. I have had the happiest life in the world. I am sorry for people who have never had Christian fellowship. We may have a little trouble on the road. But, brother, you just wait until the fun starts. You just wait! We have not gotten there yet. "At thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

When I was a little country boy (I could not have been over five years old) my father started to town one day. He was ready to go and I said, "Could I go with you?"

He said, "I don't know."

Mother looked at him and said,

"Let him go along. He will not be any trouble."

He said, "Well, come on." My mother got my cap—a little cap that pulled down over my face. I ran and got in the buggy. I never shall forget how I felt. I got up by my father and he reached over and gave me the lines. I thought I was driving. He said, "It looks like it is going to rain today." It didn't make any difference to me if it rained all the time! What did I care? He said, "The road is pretty rough." I did not care. Who cares about a few bumps on a road if they are going to town! All the time people are talking about the bumps and the rough places.

When I was eleven years old I started on the road that leads to the city not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Some people are always griping. What are you griping about? Just think where we are going! Just think what it means! "At His right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

My good friend, Dr. H. C. Morrison, told me this story: about the time Theodore Roosevelt went to Africa, he went around the world. Dr. Morrison went on a missionary tour of the world; Roosevelt went to Africa to shoot big game. Dr. Morrison said, "I got back to New York about the time Roosevelt got back from Africa. There were scores of reporters there. Cameras were clicking. There were news flashes. But nobody noticed me. I had won a good many people to the Lord in Korea, Japan, China, India, down in Egypt and over in Europe; but I had not killed any big game. Roosevelt had killed some big game and the reporters met him. All I had done was to win some people to Jesus."

"My boat got in a little ahead of time. I checked through customs as quickly as possible, called my wife over the phone and said, 'I'm getting there ahead of time. Don't tell anybody; I want to slip up on them.'"

"I went to the Pennsylvania Station, got a ticket to Kentucky and got on the train. Strange thing: I didn't see anybody I knew." [You couldn't imagine Dr. Morrison's traveling on any train without seeing somebody he knew. He did not look like anybody else. He was the most striking looking man you nearly ever saw.]

"I got down in Kentucky, stepped off the train and not even my wife was there. The colored fellow came down in an old rattle-trap buggy to meet me. I got in the buggy and he said, 'Mrs. Morrison has a sick headache and could not come to meet you.'"

"So we went up the road toward home, and I said, 'This is funny. I have preached around the world. People have been saved. I didn't kill any big game, though; and nobody recognizes me.' He went on to say, 'I just kept thinking about it, then it suddenly occurred to me that I was not home yet!'"

You know, a lot of people think we are just ordinary folks. You wait until the bands play for us. wait until flights of cherubim and angels come down to greet us. I am going to be somebody some day! We are going to be somebody—at His right hand!

When I was a little country boy there was not any good school near home and my parents sent me off to a school thirteen miles away. I was always a great mother boy. I still get lonely away from home. Just between you and me—it is all over now—but I was never as homesick, I think, as I was Thanksgiving, three days ago. Bob, Jr., had gone home. I called the folks up over the phone and they were having a big celebration. I just naturally get homesick.

So as a boy, when I went off to school I did not see how I could leave my mother. I got ready to tell them good-by and I saved my last kiss for her. Then I got in the buggy and went off

to school. I stayed for two weeks before coming home for a visit. That was a long time for a country boy away from home! The school was thirteen miles away. That was a pretty good distance in those days.

I was to go home on a certain day. I got in the buggy to go home. As I started, it began to rain. As I drove down through that rain I did not care how much it rained. It didn't make any difference to me! The lightning would break out of the pavilion of a storm cloud and the wind would blow through the forests; but it did not make any difference to me. I just kept on. I was on my way home!

When I got to the creek I found it was swollen and going around the bridge, and I did not know whether I could get through. I just held my breath and went through. And then I went on up the hill—toward home. Mother was there. Father was there. The family were there. I would be at home there!

When I was fourteen years old my mother went to Heaven. They are all dead now except me. I am the only one left of twelve children. I never knew how lonely I would be until the last one died. I had a sister who lived to be over eighty years old. I did not see her more than once a year, and then for only a few hours. But one day I was up in Wisconsin. They called me and said she was dead, and the strangest loneliness came over me.

But I am on my way Home! And I'll see my mother, and my

father and my sisters and brother and loved ones and friends. (And when you get my age you have more there than you have here.) And I will see Jesus! If Jesus were in the heart of China I would take a plane to China to see Him for one minute. I would fly all the way to China just to look at Him for one minute. But you wait until I get to Heaven!

Paul was going down a road when a light flashed, a light so bright he went blind. His eyes were not fixed for that light. If that light were to burst upon you suddenly here you could not stand it. But in Heaven you will have eyes to see Him as He is. And you will be like Him!

I am on the road tonight, hallelujah! I am on my way home!

O think of the home over there,  
By the side of the river of light,  
Where the saints, all immortal and fair,  
Are robed in their garments of white.  
Over there, over there,  
O think of the home over there,  
Over there, over there, over there,  
O think of the home over there.  
O think of the friends over there,  
Who before us the journey have trod,  
Of the songs that they breathe on the air,  
In their home in the palace

of God.  
Over there, over there,  
O think of the friends over there,  
Over there, over there, over there,  
O think of the friends over there.

My Saviour is now over there,  
There my kindred and friends are at rest;  
Then away from my sorrow and care,  
Let me fly to the land of the blest.  
Over there, over there,  
My Saviour is now over there,  
Over there, over there, over there,  
My Saviour is now over there.

I wonder if you can say, "I know I am on the way."

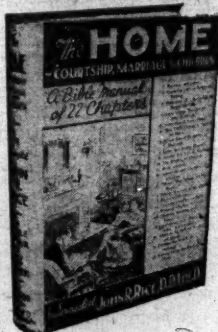
PRAYER: Lord, we thank Thee tonight for the joy—fullness of joy—that we have on the road. And we thank Thee for the assurance that we shall be like Him. How wonderful it will be! We get homesick some time to get there. We do not feel at home down here. There is so much sin. So many people are against You, Jesus. There is so much wickedness. We get rather lonely sometimes. We feel that this is not exactly where we belong. Where Jesus is, that is our Home—and that is Heaven. We are not so interested in the streets of gold and gates of pearl. We are just interested in being where Jesus is. Help us to be faithful to Him. Help us to live close to Him. For Jesus' sake we ask it. Amen.

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